

THE NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE'S  
WEEKLY PUBLICATION

## UPDATE

## HHS reorganization proposed

The Health and Human Services Committee heard testimony Jan. 18 on **LB 296**, a proposal by Kearney Sen. Joel Johnson to reorganize the state's Health and Human Services System.

The bill would reorganize the current system under a chief executive officer who would oversee six separate departments. Those departments would be divided by services for public health, Medicaid, children and family services, behavioral health, developmental disabilities and veterans' homes.

Johnson said the bill, introduced at the governor's request, was the

final step of a 10-year process to reorganize the HHS system.

"This will provide clarity, transparency and comprehension to an agency that makes up one-third of state government," he said.

Chris Peterson, current HHS policy secretary and the governor's appointee for the CEO position, presented the new structure to the committee, saying the new organization would operate in a clear, logical and accessible manner.

"The system charged with providing services to our residents should not be a complex maze of names and missions," she said.

Appointees to the CEO and six department director positions would be made by the governor and would require confirmation by the Legislature.

The previous structural change for the agency, made in 1996, merged five existing departments into three: the state Department of Health and Human Services, the state Department of HHS Finance and Support, and the state Department of HHS Regulation and Licensure.

While Johnson called that change a "significant milestone in the development continuum," that structure has

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

## CAPITOL SNAPSHOT



*The chandelier in the Capitol rotunda.*

## Committee hears safe haven bills

Two bills heard by the Judiciary Committee Jan. 17 would provide procedures for parents of newborns to safely leave their abandoned infants in the permanent care of others.

**LB 6**, introduced by Sen. Rich Pahls of Omaha, would enable hospitals, police departments and fire stations to receive infants less than 30 days old who were abandoned by a parent or a parent's designee. The state Department of Health and Human Services would then place the infant in foster care.

If the infant was not retrieved by a parent within 90 days, he or she would be available for adoption.

Nebraska is one of three states that do not have such a law.

Pahls said LB 6 would allow those in desperate

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

## INSIDE:

• Committee Hearing Schedule • Committee hears proposed petition process changes • Meet Senator Hansen • New Bills

# ISSUES UPFRONT

## Appropriations

### Bill would change dog, cat operator inspection regulations

The Agriculture Committee heard testimony Jan. 16 on a bill that would make changes to the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act.

**LB 12**, sponsored by Blair Sen. Mick Mines, would:

- allow for a flat license fee for operator licensees that do not serve cats or dogs;
- require the state Department of Agriculture to conduct preinspections of facilities applying for a license and annual inspections of licensed facilities;
- allow for the department to impose fines of up to \$5,000 for violations;
- appropriate \$411,559 from the state's general fund and \$127,000 in cash funds to the department for fiscal year 2007-08; and
- add four additional inspectors and one veterinarian to administer the program.

At this time, Nebraska has only one inspector for the 700 licensed kennels, pet stores and shelters.

The committee took no immediate action on the bill.



Sen. Mick Mines

## Education

### School aid adjustment bill moves forward to general file

The Education Committee advanced a bill Jan. 16 that would change the way early childhood education students are treated under the state's formula for aid to schools.

**LB 21**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Ron Raikes, would remove early childhood education students from student membership growth for the purpose of calculating state aid to schools. The bill also would delay the 2007 deadline for state aid certification from Feb. 1 to Feb. 15 to allow for calculation changes in time for the 2007-08 school year.

The changes proposed in LB 21 are estimated to reduce state aid to schools by \$6.5 million in fiscal year 2007-08 and by \$10.5 million in FY2008-09.

Raikes told the committee that under legislation passed in 2005, students who had been enrolled in early childhood education grant

programs could be counted under the state aid formula. However, that provision created an artificial growth factor in the formula that will increase the pool of state aid funding by \$6.5 million this coming year, he said.

Raikes said LB 21 would correct this oversight while saving the state money and addressing fairness in the distribution of state aid.

The committee advanced LB 21 to general file on a unanimous vote.

## Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

### Bills would set new requirements for petition circulators

Two bills heard by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee Jan. 17 would put new requirements in place for petition circulators. Discussion about changes in the petition process centered on First Amendment rights for some and safety for others.

**LB 39**, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. DiAnna Schimek, would require circulators to be eligible to register to vote in Nebraska and would require circulators to be paid per hour rather than per signature.



# ISSUES UPFRONT.....

**LB 40**, also sponsored by Schimek, would require the principal circulator of a petition to provide each circulator with an identification badge that would indicate the petition he or she is circulating.



*Sen. DiAnna Schimek*

"The public was feeling frustrated and irritated with the way signatures were being collected," Schimek said.

Requiring circulators to be eligible to register to vote, Schimek said, would ensure that circulators are residents of the state and can understand English. It would also prohibit recent felons or individuals on probation or parole from working as circulators.

Schimek said paying by the hour rather than by the signature would take away the incentive some circulators might have to be overly aggressive.

Finally, requiring circulators to wear ID badges would create accountability for the circulators in case an unlawful situation arose. Because the badges would be numbered rather than including the circulator's name, the badge would not infringe on the privacy of the circulator, Schimek said.

Lynn Rex of the League of Nebraska Municipalities said the bills were common sense legislation that would protect citizens.

"I think some recent experiences make it abundantly clear that this is needed," she said. "We think this is a public safety issue."

Rex referred to stories of circulators harassing voters by following them to their cars or forcing household doors to stay open

until they got signatures.

Pat Loontjer of Gambling with the Good Life also supported the bill, saying it would increase accountability for circulators. If a circulator misrepresented the purpose of a petition, the voter could write down the circulator's badge number and report the violation to the secretary of state's office.

"We've seen the distortion and misrepresentation," she said. "Something needs to be done to get the process back to how it was intended."

But Mike Groene of North Platte disagreed. Groene was the principal circulator for the failed state spending lid proposal known as Initiative 423.

"It's trying to discourage people from getting involved in the process," he said. "This will obstruct and impede the petition process."

Linda Aerni of Columbus also opposed the bill. She is currently a sponsor of a petition effort regarding telecommunications services.

"It's the role of government to facilitate, not restrict," she said.

The committee took no immediate action on either bill.

## Natural Resources

### Bill would provide free permits for military, veterans

The Natural Resources Committee heard a bill Jan. 18 that would eliminate the hunting and fishing permit fee for Nebraska residents who are on active duty in the U.S. armed services or Nebraska National Guard.

Under **LB 184**, sponsored by Sen. Tom Carlson of Holdrege, the existing \$5 fee on hunting and

fishing permits for military veterans age 64 or older also would be eliminated.

The estimated revenue loss to the state Game and Parks Commission ranges from between \$916,000 to \$4.6 million in fiscal year 2007-08.

The committee took no immediate action on the bill.



*Sen. Tom Carlson*

## Revenue

### Sales tax holiday proposed

Kids may not always enjoy the beginning of a new school year, but their parents and families would not have to pay sales tax on school-related purchases during that time of year under two proposals heard by the Revenue Committee Jan. 18.

**LB 3**, sponsored by Omaha Sen. Rich Pahls, would create a "sales tax holiday" for purchases of clothing, school supplies, computer software and personal computers and peripherals beginning at



*Sen. Rich Pahls*

midnight on the first Friday in August and ending at midnight on the Sunday immediately following. The exemption would be in effect in time for the 2007 school year.

The exemption would apply only to the following:

- clothing with a price of \$100 or less;

# ISSUES UPFRONT.....

- school supplies up to \$50 per purchase;
- computer software with a price of \$350 or less; and
- personal computers and peripherals with a price of \$3,500 or less.

The exemption proposed in LB 3 would not apply to some items, such as jewelry, handbags, sporting equipment, furniture and CD players.

**LB 60**, introduced by Lincoln Sen. Bill Avery, would create a similar sales tax exemption. However, the exemption limits would differ slightly from those in LB 3:

- clothing purchases up to \$100;
- school supply purchases up to \$100; and
- personal computer and peripheral purchases up to \$1,500.

The exemption proposed by LB 60 would not apply to items such as computer software, sporting equipment and art and computer supplies.

The fiscal impact of each bill varies slightly, but the Legislative Fiscal Office estimates that each bill would reduce revenues by approximately \$3.8 million in fiscal year 2007-08.

Pahls, a former school administrator, said families find preparing for the school year to be expensive and called the sales tax holiday idea "a venue for helping young families."

He said 14 other states have similar sales tax holidays, including Iowa and Missouri.



Sen. Bill Avery

"This bill takes away the advantage Iowa and Missouri retailers have over Nebraska retailers," Pahls said.

Both Pahls and Avery said that despite fiscal estimates, a sales tax holiday at the beginning of the school year could actually be revenue neutral or even increase sales tax revenues.

"Once you get in the store, you buy a lot of items you didn't go there to buy," Avery said.

He said the concept has been very popular in other states.

"I think there's kind of a psychological sense of satisfaction for taxpayers when they can say, 'I didn't have to pay taxes on that,'" he said.

Jim Otto, representing the Nebraska Retail Federation, said that in states with sales tax holidays, those weekends have become the second biggest sales period behind Thanksgiving weekend.

Otto added that during Iowa's sales tax holiday weekend, 30 percent of the vehicles at the Mall of the Bluffs in Council Bluffs have Nebraska license plates.

"It is a frustration for border businesses," he said.

However, the city of Omaha is concerned about the potential loss of local sales tax revenue if a sales tax holiday were in force, according to Jack Cheloha, the city's lobbyist.

Cheloha estimated Omaha's possible revenue loss at \$350,000 annually. He expressed concern about the proposal in light of various sales tax exemptions that have been granted in recent years that he said have shrunk the city's tax base.

The committee took no immediate action on either bill.

## Revenue considers various income tax credit proposals

The Revenue Committee heard four bills Jan. 19 that would provide income tax credits for a variety of purposes.

**LB 4**, introduced by Sen. Rich Pahls of Omaha, would create a state income tax credit and deduction for taxpayers who purchase long-term care insurance.

**LB 9**, sponsored by Bellevue Sen. Don Preister, would create a nonrefundable income tax credit for homeowners and businesses that make improvements for the purpose of energy conservation or renewable energy generation.

**LB 240**, sponsored by Sen. Chris Langemeier of Schuyler, would grant an income tax credit for capital gains realized from the sale of real property that is used for recreational purposes and includes public access.

**LB 264**, introduced by Malcolm Sen. Carol Hudkins, would create a refundable tax credit for qualifying volunteer emergency responders.

The committee took no immediate action on any of the four bills.



Sen. Don Preister



Sen. Chris Langemeier



Sen. Carol Hudkins

# A CLOSER LOOK.....

## HHS reorganization proposed

(CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

been faulted for causing communication problems among the departments.

"When you have separate funding in separate agencies that serve the same people, that can cause some communication challenges," said Peterson of the current system. "I've never met anyone who called HHS and got the person they needed the first time."

"This new system eliminates the barriers and gets them in touch with the programs we have," she said.

The three departments currently employ 6,278 people throughout the state.

Don Wesley, a former senator who co-sponsored the 1996 bill that began the restructuring process, was pleased that the time for this proposal had finally come. He said this plan would have been ideal then, but many believed that it was too much change at once and would result in a "clash of cultures" among the different departments.

"Now that's been overcome," he said.

John Hilgert, director of the state Department of Veterans' Affairs, praised the accountability built into the proposal, in which all six directors report to the same CEO.

"This has a single advocate within the system and a clearer chain of command," he said.

Some testifiers expressed a desire for details about how the six department directors would maintain open communication about clients who use multiple services.

Kathy Bigsby Moore, executive director of Voices for Children, gave a hypothetical example of a

child who could be served by the proposed Department of Children and Family Services with funding from the Department of Medicaid and services provided by the Department of Behavioral Services.

"We need cooperation, collaboration and cross-communication," she said.

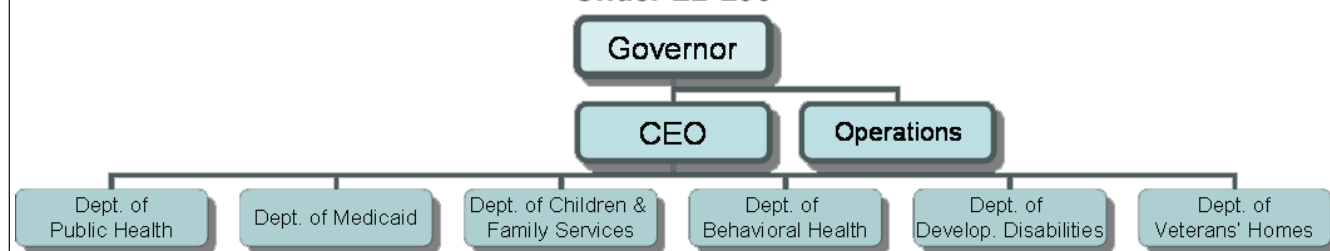
The committee took no immediate action on the bill.

**"This new system eliminates the barriers and gets (people) in touch with the programs we have."**

Chris Peterson  
HHS policy secretary

**"**

### Proposed Health and Human Services Organizational Chart Under LB 296



Source: Nebraska Health and Human Services System

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT YOUR SENATOR BY VISITING THE UNICAMERAL'S WEB SITE AT:

**[www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/senators/bios](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/senators/bios)**

## A CLOSER **LOOK**.....

# Committee hears two safe haven bills

(CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

situations to leave their children in a safe and anonymous way without resorting to abandoning the child somewhere dangerous.

"There are some people who face difficult circumstances in which they need to remain anonymous," he said.

Parents would be encouraged to leave information about the child's medical history and birthplace, and could leave their name and contact information if they wished.

The bill assures that the parent would not be charged with child abuse, neglect or abandonment for leaving the child. If the person receiving the child suspects that the child has been abused or neglected prior to having been abandoned, however, the recipient would be required to report it to authorities.

HHS would be required to create a public awareness campaign to inform people of the safe haven option and submit a report to the Legislature by Jan. 1, 2010.

LB 6 is scheduled to expire on Sept. 1, 2011, at which time the Legislature would review the success of the program and decide whether to renew it.

**LB 157**, offered by Sen. Arnie Stuthman of Platte Center, would provide similar allowances for leaving children in others' permanent care. Stuthman's bill, however, would apply only to infants less than 72 hours old.

Further, LB 157 would allow only hospital staff and fire fighters to accept the infants, not police officers. The recipient of the child would be authorized to perform any act necessary to preserve the health

of the child while the infant is in his or her custody.

The bill would guarantee immunity from criminal or civil liability for any good faith acts or omissions performed by the recipient of the infant.

Under LB 157, HHS would maintain a monthly count on the number of abandoned infants and provide a report to the Legislature by Jan. 1, 2008.

Sara Juster, representing Methodist Health System, said the bills provide desperate mothers a nonthreatening option that would reduce injuries and deaths of infants. Juster cited examples of newborns being abandoned in dumpsters and toilets.

She commended the provision in LB 6 that would charge a parent if the recipient suspected that the child had been abused or neglected.

"It is not our intent to give a free pass to people who abuse babies," she said.

However, Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers said the threat of being charged for prior abuse was a disincentive for parents to give up a baby safely.

"Is it so necessary that the mother be punished?" he asked.

Bruce Rieker, vice president of advocacy for the Nebraska Hospital Association, voiced concern that an infant could be kidnapped and then left at a hospital or fire station, leaving the state no way of knowing there was a parent looking for their child. Rieker said, for example, a grandparent who may not wish to take in a child might abandon the child to the state without the infant's parent knowing where the child is.

The committee took no immediate action on either bill.

### STAY UP-TO-DATE ON LEGISLATIVE NEWS AND ACTIVITIES!

Subscriptions to the print version of  
the Unicameral Update are available  
free of charge.

To subscribe, contact the Unicameral Information Office  
via e-mail ([uio@leg.ne.gov](mailto:uio@leg.ne.gov)) or by  
telephone (402-471-2788) to  
begin your subscription.

# MEET THE SENATORS

## Letters from past lead Hansen to Legislature

**J**ust to the right of Sen. Tom Hansen's Capitol office door, there's a small, antique desk. Perched on the worn desktop is a portrait of Hansen's grandfather, sitting at that very desk, as a member of the Nebraska Legislature. He served in the state House of Representatives from 1924-37, when the Unicameral was adopted.

Hansen recalls finding boxes of his grandfather's correspondence from 1919-40. Inside the boxes were hundreds of constituent letters and his grandfather's responses. Reading the letters made an impact on Hansen.

"You could tell that there was a flavor of respect and I really appreciated that," he said.

Although his grandfather passed away when Hansen was 11, the letters offered a glimpse into what had been a very important chapter in his grandfather's life: representing the people of Nebraska, a chapter that Hansen has just now begun.

In 1970, Hansen graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a degree in animal science.

He is the secretary and treasurer of his ranch near North Platte, which has been in the family for five generations. His connection to western Nebraska is apparent in both his cowboy boots and hat, but perhaps most obviously in the pride in his voice as he describes the landscapes and lifestyles of his district.

"I used to carry my camera

everywhere," he said.

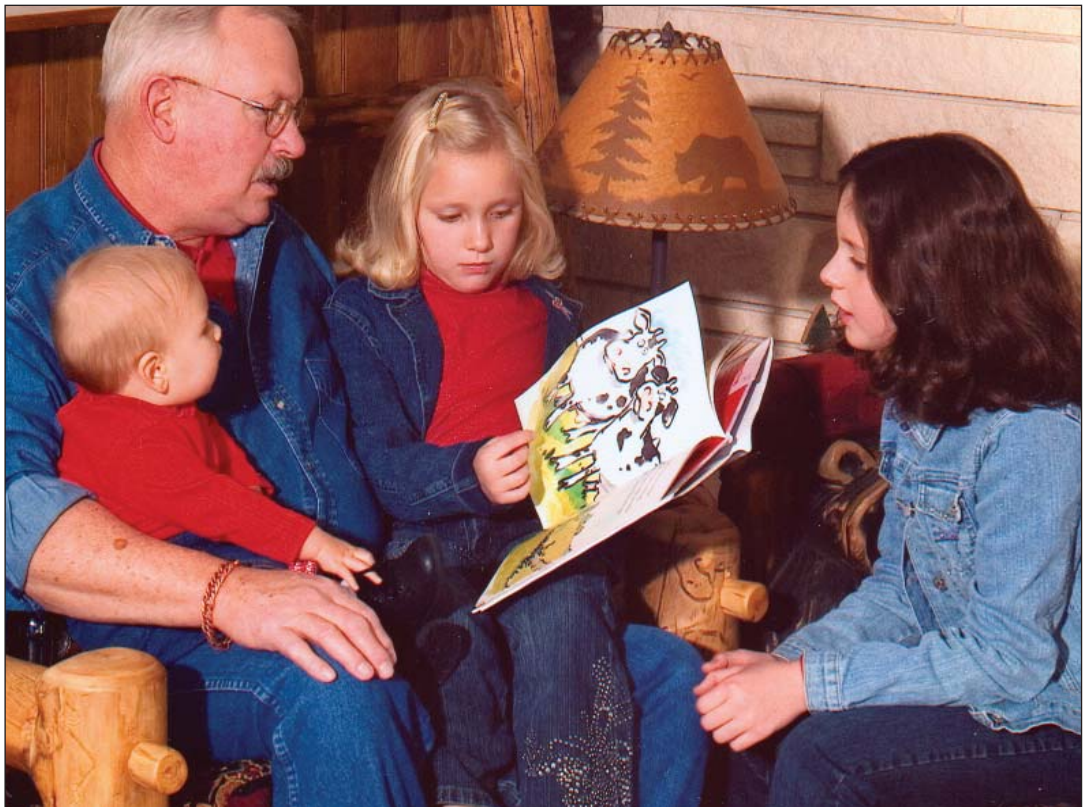
Whether he's capturing the landscapes through the lens of a camera or through welded sculptures, Hansen said he tries not to overlook his environment.

"It helps me to stop and appreciate the things I see all the time," Hansen said.

He appreciates his environment in other ways as well. Hansen has been a member of his local natural resources district board for 12 years and has served as the president of the Nebraska Cattlemen. He has also been a member of the Lincoln County Cattlemen and was involved in NebraskaLand Days.

When he's not busy with the ranch or out taking photos, Hansen and his wife, Linda, enjoy spending time with their five grandchildren ranging in age from preschool to high school.

When asked if he sees his grandchildren often, Hansen smiled and said, "Not enough."



*Sen. Tom Hansen reads to his three of his granddaughters. From left: one-year-old Emily Hansen, Katie Hansen, 7, and Morgan Hansen, 9.*

# WEEKLY REVIEW

A REVIEW OF LEGISLATIVE ACTION TAKEN TUESDAY, JAN. 16, 2007, THROUGH FRIDAY, JAN. 19, 2007

## Agriculture

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
25	LANGEMEIER	Change rabies control provisions to include hybrid animals	Placed on General File

## Banking, Commerce and Insurance

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
24	PAHLS	Change provisions relating to a reciprocal certificate as a certified public accountant	Placed on General File
26	LANGEMEIER	Redefine real estate broker under the Nebraska Real Estate License Act	Placed on General File

## Education

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
21	RAIKES	Change school finance provisions relating to the cost growth factor	Placed on General File

## Executive Board

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
1	EXECUTIVE BOARD	Revisor bill to delete unconstitutional language relating to picketing	Placed on Select File
2	EXECUTIVE BOARD	Revisor bill to delete obsolete statutes relating to appropriations	Placed on Select File

# WEEKLY REVIEW

A REVIEW OF LEGISLATIVE ACTION TAKEN TUESDAY, JAN. 16, 2007, THROUGH FRIDAY, JAN. 19, 2007

## Health & Human Services

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
90	HOWARD	Change the earned income disregard in the Welfare Reform Act	Indefinitely postponed

## Natural Resources

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
79	NATURAL RESOURCES	Change provisions related to reporting under the Nebraska Litter Reduction and Recycling Act	Placed on General File
80	NATURAL RESOURCES	Authorize additional assistance for projects under the Safe Drinking Water Act	Placed on General File
161	NATURAL RESOURCES	Raise the range for permissible application fees for certification as wastewater treatment operators	Placed on General File

## Revenue

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
94	CORNETT	Authorize municipalities to receive certain sales and use tax information	Placed on General File
98	FLOOD	Eliminate references to a fund that terminated	Placed on General File
167	REVENUE	Change property tax provisions relating to appeals, equalization, and assessor certification	Placed on General File

## Urban Affairs

BILL	SPONSOR	ONE-LINE DESCRIPTION	STATUS
11	MINES	Change provisions relating to annexation by cities of the first class	Placed on General File
28	ADAMS	Change provisions relating to conveyance of personal property by cities of the second class and villages	Placed on General File

# COMMITTEE HEARINGS

## MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2007

### Banking, Commerce and Insurance

Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 115** (*Pahls, 31*) Redefine automobile liability policy

**LB 118** (*Banking, Commerce and Insurance*) Change the Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool Act

**LB 120** (*Banking, Commerce and Insurance*) Rename and change the applicability of the Nebraska Senior Protection in Annuity Transactions Act

**LB 186** (*Langemeier, 23*) Change provisions relating to the credentialing of real property appraisers

### Business and Labor

Room 2102 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 204** (*Synowiecki, 7*) Change provisions relating to the Contractor Registration Act

**LB 211** (*Business and Labor Committee*) Change Commission of Industrial Relations judges' compensation

**LB 226** (*Cornett, 45*) Change provisions relating to boiler inspections

**LB 209** (*Business and Labor Committee*) Create and eliminate safety inspection funds relating to elevators and conveyances

### Education

Room 1525 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 95** (*Flood, 19*) Clarify reference to expense reimbursement for the Professional Practices Commission

**LB 101** (*Erdman, 47*) Clarify that only one parent need sign the statement regarding private schools that elect not to meet accreditation or approval

**LB 150** (*Adams, 24*) Change provisions relating to certificate fees paid to the State Department of Education

**LB 231** (*Raikes, 25*) Change provisions relating to the Early Childhood Training Center

**LB 241** (*Hudkins, 21*) Require the state to pay teachers' salaries as prescribed

### General Affairs

Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 64** (*Schimek, 27*) Eliminate a gaming fee and tax adopted by initiative

**LB 181** (*Kruse, 13*) Eliminate a fee and tax on gaming activity adopted by initiative

**LB 251** (*Synowiecki, 7*) Eliminate a restriction on adding alcohol to beer

### Transportation and Telecommunications

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 59** (*Engel, 17*) Require education of motor vehicle dealers, agents, and salespersons as prescribed

**LB 84** (*Howard, et al.*) Regulate traffic approaching or passing an authorized emergency vehicle

**LB 148** (*Heidemann, 1*) Provide an exception to weight and load limits for trucks

**LB 165** (*Fischer, 43*) Eliminate authorization to participate in the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2007

### Agriculture

Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 74** (*Erdman, 47*) Change the Nebraska Pure Food Act

**LB 110** (*Erdman, 47*) Adopt the Bovine Tuberculosis Act

**LB 111** (*Erdman, 47*) Change provisions relating to milk

### Banking, Commerce and Insurance

Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 117** (*Banking, Commerce and Insurance*) Change provisions relating to insurance

**LB 119** (*Banking, Commerce and Insurance*) Change the Insurers Investment Act

**LB 121** (*Banking, Commerce and Insurance*) Adopt the Captive Insurers Act

**LB 191** (*Mines, et al.*) Change provisions relating to directors of certain corporations

### Education

Room 1525 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 58** (*Harms, 48*) Increase the probationary period of community college staff

**LB 192** (*Harms, 48*) Adopt the Access College Early Scholarship Program Act and eliminate the Community Scholarship Foundation Program Act

**LB 238** (*Fischer, 43*) Create the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska Community Colleges

**LB 342** (*Raikes, et al.*) Proved adjustments to base-year operating revenue for community colleges

### Transportation and Telecommunications

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 239** (*Fischer, 43*) Update references to federal law in certain state motor vehicle statutes

**LB 286** (*Transportation and Telecommunications Committee*) Change the Motor Vehicle Certificate of Title Act and the Motor Vehicle Registration Act

**LB 287** (*Transportation and Telecommunications Committee*) Change vehicle titling and registration provisions

### Urban Affairs

Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 51** (*Hudkins, 21*) Include all cities and villages under the Nebraska Industrial Development Corporation Act

**LB 206** (*Friend, 10*) Change provisions regarding the city treasurer and the county treasurer serving as ex officio city treasurer in cities of the metropolitan class

**LB 207** (*Friend, 10*) Provide a power for the board of directors of a metropolitan utilities district

**LR 5CA** (*Friend, 10*) Constitutional amendment to authorize use of revenue bonds to develop property for use by nonprofit enterprises

# COMMITTEE HEARINGS

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2007**

## **Government, Military and Veterans Affairs**

Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 27** (*Adams, 24*) Authorize the Auditor of Public Accounts to conduct certain audits

**LB 87** (*Howard, 9*) Require that all state service contracts be awarded and performed in the United States

**LB 100** (*Erdman, 47*) Provide duties to the Auditor of Public Accounts

**LB 187** (*Mines, 18*) Prohibit certain interlocal agreements

## **Health and Human Services**

Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 244** (*Flood, 19*) Change provisions relating to transportation of patients in ambulances

**LB 245** (*Johnson, 37*) Change provisions relating to fluoridation of drinking water

**LB 283** (*Stuthman, 22*) Provide for biennial renewal of medication aide registrations

**LB 374** (*Johnson, 37*) Change repayment provisions for rural health education loans

## **Judiciary**

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 92** (*Cornett, 45*) Change provisions relating to foreign national minors

**LB 132** (*Nantkes, 46*) Provide for revocation of a legal separation decree

**LB 237** (*Pahls, 31*) Change the homestead exemption amount for judgments and execution

**LB 259** (*Friend, 10*) Change provisions relating to service of process for garnishment

## **Natural Resources**

Room 1525 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 313** (*Natural Resources Committee*) Amend the Livestock Waste Management Act with respect to certain engineering requirements

**LB 333** (*Johnson, 37*) Change the Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Contractors Certification and System Registration Act

## **Revenue**

Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 315** (*Janssen, et al.*) Update references to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986

**LB 344** (*Burling, 33*) Change the termination date of the Tax Policy Reform Commission

**LB 305** (*Fischer, 43*) Change distribution of certain sales tax revenue

**LB 359** (*Pankonin, 2*) Change use of certain sales tax proceeds

**LB 41** (*Hudkins, 21*) Change motor fuel tax rates and allocation of the revenue

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2007**

## **Government, Military and Veterans Affairs**

Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 248** (*Nantkes, 46*) Provide for road improvement district elections to be conducted by mail

**LB 298** (*Burling, 33*) Change the number of signatures required on nominating petitions

**LB 311** (*Aguilar, 35*) Change provisions relating to petition signature verification

**LR 8CA** (*Avery, 28*) Constitutional amendment to change signature requirements for initiative petitions

## **Health and Human Services**

Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 250** (*Synowiecki, 7*) Create a religious exemption from mandatory infant screening tests

**LB 267** (*McGill, et al.*) Authorize participation in the child care subsidy program and the provision of certain subsidies

**LB 308** (*Stuthman, 22*) Adopt the Automated Medication System Act

**LB 326** (*Speaker Flood, 19, at the request of the Governor*) Change eligibility provisions for certain types of public assistance

**LB 351** (*Stuthman, 22*) Change and provide for transitional public assistance payments

## **Judiciary**

Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 335** (*Kruse, et al.*) Change provisions relating to civil protective custody

**LB 341** (*Schimek, et al.*) Change Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act provisions

**LB 201** (*Fischer, 43*) Change the penalty for false information relating to motor vehicle registration

**LB 83** (*Synowiecki, 7*) Provide for Board of Parole recommendations relating to incarceration work camps

**LB 96** (*Flood, 19*) Redefine a term under the Nebraska Probation Administration Act

## **Natural Resources**

Room 1525 - 1:30 p.m.

**Mark McColley** - Nebraska Ethanol Board

**Michael S. Thede** - Nebraska Ethanol Board

**LB 291** (*Hansen, et al.*) Change the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board membership

**LB 299** (*Hudkins, 21*) Change provisions relating to the Game Law

## **Revenue**

Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 444** (*Stuthman, 22*) Change provisions relating to the renewable energy tax credit

**LB 23** (*Wightman, 36*) Exclude a portion of capital gains from income tax

**LB 270** (*Johnson, 37*) Exclude certain rural health loan repayments from income

**LB 459** (*Gay, 14*) Allow an income tax deduction for interest on education loans

**LB 304** (*Gay, 14*) Change qualifications for tax credits relating to long-term care insurance

**LB 456** (*White, 8*) Provide an income tax credit for shareholders of subchapter S financial institutions

# COMMITTEE HEARINGS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2007

## Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 172** (*Kopplin, et al.*) Provide for the adoption of ordinances and resolutions by counties

**LB 195** (*Preister, 5*) Repeal the authorization for the Nebraska State Quarter

**LB 208** (*Aguilar, 35*) Change bond requirements for certain public building projects

**LB 212** (*Rogert, 16*) Authorize counties to enact ordinances as prescribed

## Health and Human Services Room 1510 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 49** (*Hudkins, 21*) Adopt the Mercury Vaccine and Drug Act

## Judiciary Room 1113 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 29** (*Friend, 10*) Provide for court orders to direct financially able parents to pay for costs of care for wards of the state

**LB 306** (*Stuthman, 22*) Provide for the protection of social security numbers in support orders

**LB 102** (*Erdman, 47*) Provide for notice of appointment of a personal representative under the Nebraska Probate Code

**LB 97** (*Flood, 19*) Repeal terminated provisions relating to settlement escrow funds

**LB 290** (*Pirsch, 4*) Change judicial nominating commission provisions

## Revenue Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 106** (*Engel, 17*) Change the tax on snuff

**LB 537** (*Schimek, 27*) Authorize the collection and dissemination of motor fuel tax on land held in trust for Indian tribes

**LB 403** (*Schimek, 27*) Change distribution and allocation of certain sales tax revenue and road funds

**LB 22** (*Wightman, 36*) Change inheritance tax calculations

**LB 364** (*Flood, 19*) Change apportionment of inheritance tax revenue

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2007

## Banking, Commerce and Insurance Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 122** (*Banking, Commerce and Insurance*) Change provisions relating to banking and finance

**LB 124** (*Banking, Commerce and Insurance*) Revise powers of state-chartered banks, building and loan associations, and credit unions

**LB 125** (*Pahls, et al.*) Change provisions relating to community development investments

**LB 126** (*Pahls, et al.*) Provide for regulation of trust company names

**LB 156** (*Langemeier, 23*) Change provisions relating to bank boards, investments, and premiums

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2007

## Agriculture Room 1524 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 200** (*Burling, 33*) Change the definition of tractor for purposes of tractor testing

**LB 273** (*Kopplin, 3*) Change the definition of tractor for purposes of tractor testing

**LB 108** (*Agriculture*) Change provisions relating to fence disputes

**LB 422** (*Erdman, 47*) Change membership of the Nebraska Brand Committee

## Banking, Commerce and Insurance Room 1507 - 1:30 p.m.

**LB 127** (*Pahls, et al.*) Change provisions relating to loan brokerage agreements

**LB 128** (*Pahls, et al.*) Change the Nebraska Installment Sales Act

**LB 130** (*Pahls, et al.*) Provide for a licensee relocation fee under the Nebraska Installment Loan Act

**LB 149** (*Gay, 14*) Change provisions relating to the unauthorized use of the word bank

## Hearings are open to public

Public hearings offer people the opportunity to make their views known on proposed legislation and have them incorporated into the official legislative record. In Nebraska, most bills, with the exception of a few technical bills, receive a public hearing before a legislative committee.

A weekly schedule of committee hearings is available in the Clerk's Office, the Legislative Bill Room and the Legislature's web site ([www.nebraskalegislature.gov](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov)).

The schedule also can be found in the Unicameral Update, the Sunday Lincoln Journal-Star and the Sunday Omaha World-Herald.

To testify before a committee, attend and fill out the sign-in sheet at the witness table, orally identify yourself and spell your last name for the record and state who, if anyone, you represent as you begin your testimony. Be prepared to answer questions.

Please note that addressing committee members or witnesses from the audience, public demonstrations and applause are prohibited.

DO YOU NEED INSTANT  
ACCESS TO LEGISLATIVE  
INFORMATION?

VISIT THE  
UNICAMERAL  
UPDATE ONLINE:

[www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/update](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/update)

# NEW BILLS.....

## Bills Introduced on Day 9 - Jan. 16, 2007

Bill	Oneliner	Introducer
LB378	Change the Small Employer Health Insurance Availability Act	Pahls, 31
LB379	Change certain corporate reporting, notice, and filing provisions and eliminate references to professional limited liability companies	Pahls, 31
LB380	Change a license application requirement under the Mortgage Bankers Registration and Licensing Act	Pahls, 31
LB381	Eliminate oral requests for information regarding farm product liens	Pahls, 31
LB382	Change provisions relating to notaries public	Pahls, 31
LB383	Change filing requirements involving the address of a partnership's agent	Pahls, 31
LB384	Prohibit certain actions by judgment creditors	Wightman, 36
LB385	Change provisions relating to advanced practice registered nurses	Johnson, 37
LB386	Adopt the Nebraska Security Instrument Satisfaction Act	Langemeier, 23
LB387	Require separate plumbing and water metering for new construction as prescribed	Langemeier, 23
LB388	Change duties and membership of the Economic Development Commission and the Department of Economic Development	Aguilar, 35
LB389	Change provisions relating to public records	Aguilar, 35
LB390	Require certain rules and regulations related to underground storage tanks and tank operators	Aguilar, 35
LB391	Change provisions relating to public records and meetings	Mines, 18
LB392	Change provisions relating to municipal counties	Mines, 18
LB393	Redefine award and eligible student for purposes of the Nebraska Scholarship Act	Mines, 18
LB394	Change provisions relating to nomination for office	Burling, 33
LB395	Adopt a new Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act	Johnson, 37
LB396	Increase the range of fees imposed by the State Board of Landscape Architects	Johnson, 37
LB397	Adopt the In-home Personal Care Services Act	Johnson, 37
LB398	Change provisions relating to credentialing optometrists	Johnson, 37
LB399	Adopt the Perfusion Practice Act	Johnson, 37
LB400	Require an audit of medicaid drug rebate payments	Johnson, 37
LB401	Provide for notations on drivers' licenses and state identification cards regarding advance medical directives	Schimek, 27
LB402	Adopt the Redistricting Act	Schimek, 27
LB403	Change distribution and allocation of certain sales tax revenue and road funds	Schimek, 27
LB404	Change Nebraska Liquor Control Commission members' salaries	Janssen, 15
LB405	Provide for additional city council members for cities of the metropolitan class	Pedersen, 39
LB406	Provide for presumptive parole release dates	Pedersen, 39
LB407	Change driving under the influence penalty provisions with respect to ignition interlock devices	Pedersen, 39
LB408	Change provisions relating to certain public contracts for services	Preister, 5
LB409	Change tax levy authority of community colleges	Preister, 5
LB410	Change child welfare caseload provisions	Howard, 9
LB411	Require standards for training for certain new health and human services employees	Howard, 9
LB412	Provide duties for the Nebraska Power Review Board relating to renewable energy	McGill, 26
LB413	Change provisions governing children born out of wedlock and the offense of violation of custody	Flood, 19
LB414	Provide for transfer of funds for substance abuse services	Flood, 19
LB415	Change provisions relating to provisional operator's permits and other operator's licenses and permits	Harms, 48
LB416	Exempt government retirement benefits from income tax	Karpisek, 32
LB417	Include invasive pneumococcal disease as a childhood immunization requirement	Nantkes, 46
LB418	Change Game and Parks Commission membership provisions	Erdman, 47
LB419	Authorize issuance of Nebraska Agriculture specialty and personalized message license plates	Erdman, 47
LB420	Change cigarette tax distribution and create funds	Erdman, 47
LB421	Permit issuance of multiple Purple Heart specialty plates	Erdman, 47

# NEW BILLS.....

LB422	Change membership of the Nebraska Brand Committee	Erdman, 47
LB423	Change sales and use tax collection fees	Burling, 33
LB424	Prohibit the breathing, inhaling, or drinking of certain compounds	Adams, 24
LB425	Create the Nebraska Operational Assistance Act	Pankonin, 2
LB426	Adopt the Pharmacy Technician Act	Pankonin, 2
LB427	Change authorized procedures for dental hygienists	Johnson, 37
LB428	Adopt the Peace Officer Employer - Employee Relations Act	Synowiecki, 7
LB429	Exempt certain purchases by museums from sales and use tax	Synowiecki, 7
LB430	Change property tax levies	Langemeier, 23
LB431	Provide an income tax credit for certain educational expenses	Friend, 10
LB432	Change the Act Prohibiting Unjust Discrimination in Employment Because of Age	Friend, 10
LB433	Change provisions relating to selection and obligations of presidential electors	Friend, 10
LB434	Change late filing fees under the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act	Avery, 28
LB435	Provide for a Nebraska State Fairgrounds Master Plan	Raikes, 25
LB436	Change income tax calculations, rates, and schedules and eliminate certain itemized deductions and taxes	Raikes, 25
LB437	Change provisions relating to issuance of specialty and personalized license plates	Cornett, 45
LB438	Appropriate funds to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska	McDonald, 41
LB439	Create the Highway Finance Task Force	Raikes, 25
LB440	Change and eliminate provisions relating to learning communities	Preister, 5
LB441	Change provisions relating to distribution of shippers' license fees	McDonald, 41
LB442	Redefine animal life for sales tax purposes	Stuthman, 22
LB443	Authorize transportation development districts and authorize a local sales tax	Stuthman, 22
LB444	Change provisions relating to the renewable energy tax credit	Stuthman, 22
LB445	Provide qualifications and certification requirements for certain persons under the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired Act	Stuthman, 22
LB446	Require Department of Roads to let contracts for the construction of a Platte River bridge and for highway improvements	Stuthman, 22
LB447	Require the Department of Roads to conduct a feasibility study for a Platte River bridge	Stuthman, 22
LB448	Change limitation of action provisions under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act	Ashford, 20
LB449	Change provisions on how judicial records are proved	Ashford, 20
LB450	Provide immunity for employer disclosure of certain employee information	Ashford, 20
LB451	Change provisions relating to release of patient information by a pharmacist	Nantkes, 46
LB452	Appropriate funds for drug abuse prevention and education programs	Burling, 33
LB453	Provide an income tax credit for property taxes	White, 8
LB454	Change homestead exemption provisions	White, 8
LB455	Allow school districts to exceed applicable allowable growth rate for increased energy or insurance costs	White, 8
LB456	Provide an income tax credit for shareholders of subchapter S financial institutions	White, 8
LB457	Change provisions governing court review of foster care placement	Hansen, 42
LB458	Require vegetation management in certain streams	Carlson, 38
LB459	Allow an income tax deduction for interest on education loans	Gay, 14
LB460	Change provisions relating to presidential primary elections and political parties	Lathrop, 12
LB461	Provide rights for foster parents	Dubas, 34
LB462	Change workers' compensation provisions covering disability payments during vocational rehabilitation	Dubas, 34
LR9	Congratulate the University of Nebraska Women's Volleyball Team for winning the 2006 Division I championship	Fulton, 29
LR10	Urge Nebraska's congressional delegation to ensure that Congress timely reauthorizes the State Children Health Insurance Program	Johnson, 37
LR11CA	Constitutional amendment to change the distribution of lottery proceeds	Flood, 19

# NEW BILLS.....

## Bills Introduced on Day 10 - Jan. 17, 2007

Bill	Oneliner	Introducer
LB463	Adopt the Uniform Credentialing Act	Johnson, 37
LB464	Change enforcement provisions relating to the Campaign Finance Limitation Act and Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act	Chambers, 11
LB465	Change provisions relating to jailhouse informants	Chambers, 11
LB466	Provide for private party In Transit stickers	Chambers, 11
LB467	Grant the Ombudsman authority with respect to county jails	Chambers, 11
LB468	Provide duties to the Nebraska Investment Council regarding Sudan-related investments	Chambers, 11
LB469	Change funding restrictions under the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act	Chambers, 11
LB470	Change provisions relating to dissemination of records of arrest	Chambers, 11
LB471	Authorize regulation of mixed martial arts by the State Athletic Commissioner	Chambers, 11
LB472	Change statutory references to members of the Commission of Industrial Relations	Chambers, 11
LB473	Change provisions relating to learning communities and Class V school district elections	Chambers, 11
LB474	Provide for certain misconduct by school teachers, school nurses, and police officers to be a public record	Chambers, 11
LB475	Prohibit discrimination based upon sexual orientation or marital status	Chambers, 11
LB476	Change penalty from death to life imprisonment without possibility of parole and provide for restitution	Chambers, 11
LB477	Change contribution levels for state and political subdivision employee health plans	Wightman, 36
LB478	Change provisions relating to adoption procedures	Johnson, 37
LB479	Change provisions relating to audiologists and speech-language pathologists	Johnson, 37
LB480	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act	Johnson, 37
LB481	Change requirements relating to criminal background checks for certain health care professionals	Johnson, 37
LB482	Provide for the coverage of qualifying autism services under the Medical Assistance Act	Johnson, 37
LB483	Appropriate funds from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund for biomedical and autism research	Johnson, 37
LB484	Change provisions relating to payment of tax proceeds to certain political subdivisions	McDonald, 41
LB485	Change tax levy provisions relating to fire protection districts	Louden, 49
LB486	Adopt the Local Community Rail Security and Employee Education Act	McGill, 26
LB487	Authorize an income tax for support of schools	Wallman, 30
LB488	Authorize an income tax credit for perpetual conservation easement donations	Wallman, 30
LB489	Change provisions relating to and require buses to have occupant protection systems	Harms, 48
LB490	Repeal the Seamless Delivery System Pilot Project	Harms, 48
LB491	Change provisions relating to concealed handguns	Harms, 48
LB492	Adopt the Education Facilities State Aid Act and create the Education Facilities Review Board	Harms, 48
LB493	Change provisions relating to the Water Policy Task Force	Langemeier, 23
LB494	Change the sales and use tax exemption on manufacturing machinery and equipment	White, 8
LB495	Prohibit employers from requiring use of compensated leave as prescribed	White, 8
LB496	Provide an income tax adjustment for extraordinary dividends	White, 8
LB497	Adopt the Family Military Leave Act	White, 8
LB498	Adopt the Business Partnership in Rural Education Program Act	White, 8
LB499	Change contributions for school retirement	White, 8
LB500	Change provisions relating to disqualifications for unemployment benefits	White, 8
LB501	Provide for cigarette tax collection by direct sellers	Mines, 18
LB502	Change inheritance tax rates	Mines, 18
LB503	Change and provide requirements for vacancies on natural resource district boards of directors	Mines, 18
LB504	Prohibit hunting through the Internet	Mines, 18
LB505	Change provisions of the Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act	Mines, 18
LB506	Provide an alternative method of reimbursement for special education and related services	Friend, 10
LB507	Change provisions relating to ethanol production incentive tax credits	Burling, 33

# NEW BILLS.....

LB508	Change provisions of the Judges Retirement Act and the School Employees Retirement Act	Pahls, 31
LB509	Create the Scholarship Trust Fund	Avery, 28
LB510	Create a homestead exemption and the Scholarship Trust Fund	Avery, 28
LB511	Change valuation of agricultural land and create a homestead exemption	Avery, 28
LB512	Provide income tax credits	Fulton, 29
LB513	Provide billing requirements for anatomic pathology services	Fulton, 29
LB514	Provide an income tax credit for employer contributions to employee long-term care insurance	Fulton, 29
LB515	Change county planning commission provisions relating to livestock operations	Stuthman, 22
LB516	Adopt the Corporate Farming Policy Advisory Act	Agriculture Committee
LB517	Provide for the consolidation of one or more cities of the first class	Erdman, 47
LB518	Change provisions relating to the eligibility of children under the Medical Assistance Act	Howard, 9
LB519	Require a review of property valuations	Howard, 9
LB520	Create the Early Childhood Education Legislative Study Group	Howard, 9
LB521	Add classifications of students to be reported in the fall school district membership reports	Howard, 9
LB522	Change civil procedure costs and attorney's fees	Aguilar, 35
LB523	Adopt the Quality Home Care Act	Aguilar, 35
LB524	Change provisions relating to school districts in annexed territory	Aguilar, 35
LB525	Modify provisions relating to liability involved in vehicular pursuits	Aguilar, 35
LB526	Change civil procedure plaintiff's costs	Aguilar, 35
LB527	Provide registration fees for political committees and allow waiver of interest on late filing fees and penalties	Aguilar, 35
LB528	Change provisions relating to elections	Aguilar, 35
LB529	Create a mentor teacher supplemental compensation pilot project	Nantkes, 46
LB530	Change Storm Water Management Plan Program provisions	Nantkes, 46
LB531	Provide tax credits for employers providing health insurance	Nantkes, 46
LB532	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Police Standards Council	Nantkes, 46
LB533	Remove a requirement of consent and waiver of physical appearance for audiovisual court appearances	Heidemann, 1
LB534	Change provisions relating to urban storm water drainage	Schimek, 27
LB535	Create the juvenile legal services division of the Commission on Public Advocacy and eliminate a council	Schimek, 27
LB536	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services Finance and Support	Schimek, 27
LB537	Authorize the collection and dissemination of motor fuel tax on land held in trust for Indian tribes	Schimek, 27
LB538	Change authorized functions for dental hygienists	Schimek, 27
LB539	Change ballot status provisions for presidential and vice-presidential candidates	Rogert, 16
LB540	Adopt the Probation and Parole Services Merger Act	Synowiecki, 7
LB541	Provide a duty for the Community Corrections Council	Synowiecki, 7
LB542	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services	Synowiecki, 7
LB543	Change and eliminate conveyance safety provisions	Synowiecki, 7
LB544	Eliminate prohibition on retail beer licensees accepting credit from a beer manufacturer or wholesaler	Synowiecki, 7
LB545	Appropriate funds to carry out the Nebraska Prostitution Intervention and Treatment Act	Synowiecki, 7
LB546	Provide for parimutuel wagering on historic horseraces	Synowiecki, 7
LB547	Adopt the Nebraska Student Advantage Act	Kopplin, 3
LB548	Appropriate funds relating to behavioral health services	Synowiecki, 7
LB549	Provide for microdistilleries	Synowiecki, 7
LB550	Provide for sale of prescription drugs to animal owners	Johnson, 37
LB551	Provide for sales tax revenue appropriations under the Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act	Flood, 19
LB552	Increase the salaries of Supreme Court judges	Flood, 19

# NEW BILLS.....

LB553	Impound an operator's license as prescribed with respect to bail and eliminate certain administrative license revocation procedures	Flood, 19
LB554	Adopt a new Parenting Act	Flood, 19
LB555	Change provisions relating to home- and community-based services	Ashford, 20
LB556	Change Juvenile Code provisions relating to counsel and guardian ad litem	Ashford, 20
LB557	Create the Tutoring and Summer School Fund and provide an income tax credit	Ashford, 20
LB558	Add housing pattern information to the integration plan for a learning community	Ashford, 20
LB559	Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services Finance and Support	Ashford, 20
LB560	Provide for regulation of communications providers	Fischer, 43
LB561	Change provisions relating to removal of disabled or immobilized vehicles	Fischer, 43
LB562	Change provisions relating to the Community Development Law	Adams, 24
LB563	Change provisions relating to learners with high ability	Adams, 24
LB564	Change the Recreational Liability Act	Friend, 10
LB565	Adopt the Entertainment and Tourism Development Act	Avery, 28
LB566	Adopt the Public Recreational Liability Act	Louden, 49
LB567	Change the Recreational Liability Act	Louden, 49
LB568	Extend a scrap tire grant program	Natural Resources Committee
LB569	Change tax levy authority relating to hospital districts	Louden, 49
LB570	Provide for Gold Star license plates	Louden, 49
LB571	Provide for adoption by two adult persons jointly	Kruse, 13
LB572	Provide for the inclusion of certain library employees under the Nebraska State Insurance Program	Kruse, 13
LB573	Adopt the Alcoholic Liquor Liability Act	Kruse, 13
LB574	Appropriate funds for capitol parking	Kruse, 13
LB575	Exempt assisted-living facilities from sales and use taxes	Kruse, 13
LB576	Provide for rate increases for behavioral health services providers	Kruse, 13
LB577	Provide for reimbursement for generic prescriptions	Kruse, 13
LB578	Change provisions relating to liquor licenses	McDonald, 41
LB579	Allow alternative energy production through customer-generators	Louden, 49
LB580	Change provisions relating to tobacco product manufacturers	Preister, 5
LB581	Adopt the Energy Conservation and Self-Reliance Act	Preister, 5
LB582	Create the Nebraska Educational Trust and change the distribution of certain sales tax proceeds	Preister, 5
LB583	Adopt the Electronic Recycling System Act	Preister, 5
LB584	Adopt the Reduced Cigarette Ignition Propensity Act	Preister, 5
LB585	Change provisions relating to the dispensing of cigarettes or other tobacco products	Preister, 5
LB586	Change medical lien provisions	Cornett, 45
LB587	Eliminate limitations on appropriations for county jail reimbursement assistance	Cornett, 45
LB588	Change the workers' compensation hospital fee schedule and payment of providers	Business and Labor Committee
LB589	Change provisions relating to motorcycle operator's licenses	Cornett, 45
LB590	Change provisions relating to educational service unit reorganization	Cornett, 45
LB591	Provide for a change in zoning regulations for cities of the first class	Cornett, 45
LB592	Change provisions relating to sanitary and improvement districts	Cornett, 45
LB593	Amend the Petroleum Release Remedial Action Act to eliminate an insurance provision	Louden, 49
LB594	Limit the granting of water well permits as prescribed	Kopplin, 3
LB595	Create the Task Force on School Funding for Economic Growth	Kopplin, 3
LB596	Change retirement benefits and annuity payments for school employees	Kopplin, 3
LB597	Change provisions relating to zoning and jurisdiction designations for cities of the first class	Kopplin, 3
LB598	Provide for Shriners license plates	Karpisek, 32
LB599	Permit the filing of voluntary acknowledgement of parentage in cases of gestational surrogacy	Aguiar, 35

# NEW BILLS.....

LB600	Provide for educational service unit boundary changes	Raikes, 25
LB601	Create the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council	Raikes, 25
LB602	Establish election districts for educational service unit boards	Raikes, 25
LB603	Change core services and technology funding provisions relating to educational service units	Raikes, 25
LB604	Change educational service units' taxing authority	Raikes, 25
LB605	Change tax levy and distribution provisions relating to educational service units	Raikes, 25
LB606	Provide for court referral to mediation or other alternative dispute resolution	Ashford, 20
LB607	Provide a requirement for full-time fire personnel in certain cities of the first class	Ashford, 20
LB608	Change the sales tax rate	Raikes, 25
LB609	Adopt the Nebraska Recruitment Promotion Act	Carlson, 38
LB610	Provide documentation and recordkeeping requirements for the Department of Health and Human Services regarding sex offenders	Legislative Performance Audit Committee
LB611	Change Nebraska State Patrol retirement contribution and payment provisions	Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee
LB612	Redefine compensation for school employees retirement systems	Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee
LB613	Change deposit provisions of school employees retirement systems	Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee
LB614	Change adjusted valuation provisions under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	Raikes, 25
LB615	Provide for a system of tracking student achievement	Raikes, 25
LB616	Eliminate a provision relating to regional behavioral health authorities	Pedersen, 39
LB617	Change provisions relating to children's behavioral health	Pedersen, 39
LB618	Authorize State Treasurer to collect certain bad debt fees electronically	Pirsch, 4
LB619	Change provisions relating to bad debt charges by the State Treasurer	Pirsch, 4
LB620	Change provisions relating to child support collection, bad debts, and the State Disbursement Unit	Pirsch, 4
LB621	Change provisions relating to points and fines for speeding	Pirsch, 4
LB622	Require training courses in public records and the Open Meetings Act for all members of a public body, public officers, and public employees	Pirsch, 4
LB623	Change provisions relating to speedy trial	Pirsch, 4
LB624	Change provisions relating to operating a motor vehicle to avoid arrest	Pirsch, 4
LB625	Prohibit civil actions based upon weight gain	Engel, 17
LB626	Create a production incentive for biodiesel fuel	Dierks, 40
LB627	Redefine real property and tangible personal property for purposes of taxation	Dierks, 40
LB628	Change budget provisions and levy limitations for cities, villages, and counties	Dierks, 40
LB629	Adopt the Rural Community-Based Energy Development Act	Dierks, 40
LB630	Change provisions relating to freeholder petitions	Dierks, 40
LB631	Prohibit interchange of anti-epileptic drugs	Dierks, 40
LB632	Change provisions relating to the national uniform system of animal identification	Dierks, 40
LB633	Change the Competitive Livestock Markets Act	Dierks, 40
LB634	Adopt the Feedlot Statutory Trust Act	Dierks, 40
LB635	Provide for financial compensation for caregiving family members under the Disabled Persons and Family Support Act	Dierks, 40
LB636	Exempt certain public power district contracts from sealed bidding requirements	Natural Resources Committee
LB637	Change procurement provisions under the State Lottery Act	General Affairs Committee
LB638	Change and eliminate provisions relating to bingo, lotteries, and raffles	General Affairs Committee
LB639	Change powers and duties of county attorneys	Raikes, 25
LB640	Authorize a learning community levy for certain approved capital projects	Raikes, 25
LB641	Provide for the division of a learning community into separate education centers and establish procedures	Raikes, 25
LB642	Change educational service units' role and mission provisions	Raikes, 25

# NEW BILLS.....

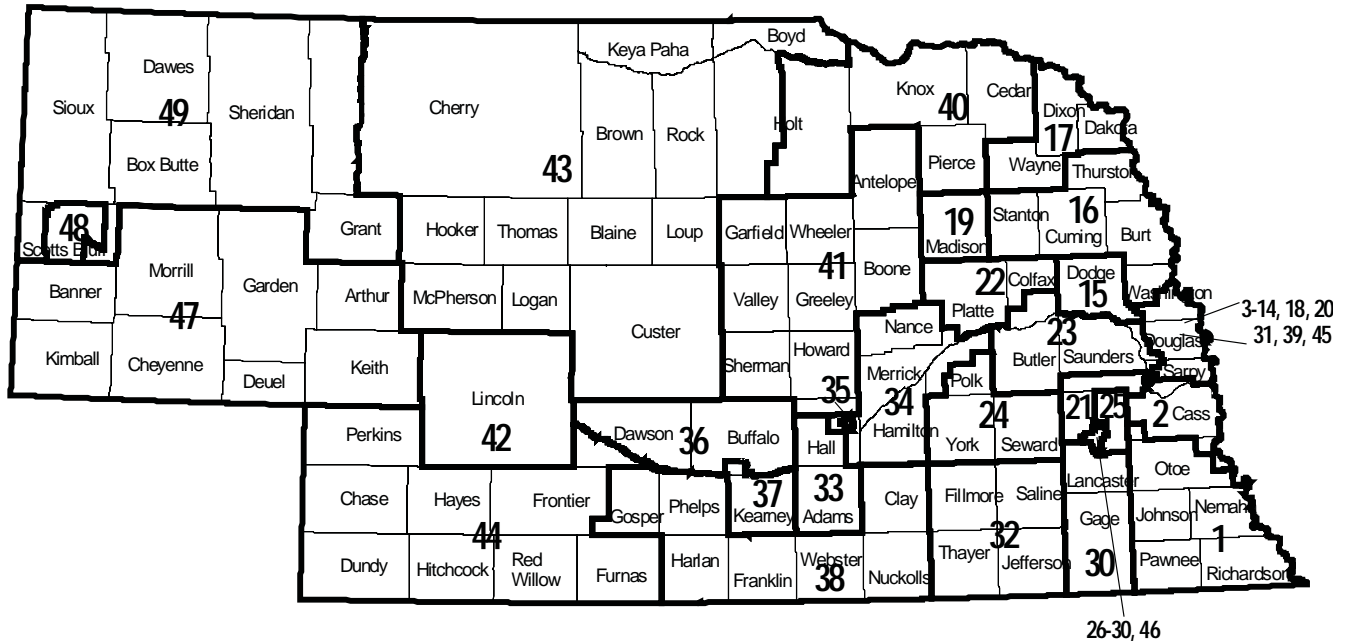
LB643	Change the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act to eliminate certain income tax provisions	Raikes, 25
LB644	Provide for summer school student units in the state aid formula	Raikes, 25
LB645	Change Nebraska Liquor Control Act provisions to exempt a bed and breakfast establishment from an occupation tax	Heidemann, 1
LB646	Change provisions relating to counting ballots	Nelson, 6
LB647	Change provisions relating to insurance coverage of mental health and physical health conditions	Johnson, 37
LB648	Provide tax credits relating to wind energy projects	Preister, 5
LB649	Modify the state aid formula under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	Raikes, 25
LB650	Change provisions relating to early childhood education and the Special Education Act	Raikes, 25
LB651	Change and eliminate education provisions	Raikes, 25
LB652	Require the state and political subdivisions to do energy audits	White, 8
LB653	Require implementation of a statewide system for assessment of student learning and for reporting	Raikes, 25
LB654	Transfer veterans education and training duties to the State Department of Education	Raikes, 25
LB655	Change state aid to school provisions relating to adjustments on budget statements	Raikes, 25
LB656	Provide for temporary funding related to distance education	Raikes, 25
LB657	Change provisions relating to distance education	Raikes, 25
LB658	Change provisions relating to Class I and Class VI school districts	Raikes, 25
LB659	Increase the salaries of Supreme Court judges	Pedersen, 39
LB660	Change the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Services Fund Act	Transportation and Telecommunications Committee
LB661	Change provisions relating to telecommunications	Transportation and Telecommunications Committee
LB662	Change distribution of certain sales tax revenue	Hudkins, 21
LB663	Change distribution and allocation of motor vehicle registration fees	Hudkins, 21
LB664	Eliminate an exemption from licensure as a geologist	Hudkins, 21
LB665	Provide for the election of cash balance benefits for state and county employees	Karpisek, 32
LB666	Provide for eligibility for certain federal programs upon release from incarceration as prescribed	Pedersen, 39
LB667	Permit municipalities to allow pedestrians to solicit contributions on roadways	Pedersen, 39
LB668	Eliminate provisions relating to gift cards and gift certificates	Hudkins, 21
LB669	Adopt the Nebraska Behavioral Health Jail Diversion Planning and Coordination Advisory Council Act	Hudkins, 21
LB670	Create the Council on the Management and Treatment of Sex Offenders	Hudkins, 21
LB671	Adopt the Office of Probation and Parole Administration	Pedersen, 39
LB672	Change eminent domain provisions relating to municipal utilities	Lathrop, 12
LB673	Modify the definition of malpractice or professional neglect to include sexual abuse, misconduct, or exploitation	Lathrop, 12
LB674	Prohibit use of social security numbers by employers as prescribed and provide a penalty	Lathrop, 12
LB675	Require disclosures by pharmaceutical manufacturing companies	Lathrop, 12
LB676	Prohibit the blocking of railroad crossings for more than a specified time and to provide penalties	Dubas, 34
LB677	Change late fees under the Livestock Waste Management Act	Dubas, 34
LB678	Change school district boundary provisions relating to annexed territory	Dubas, 34
LB679	Eliminate the cap on retirement contributions for University of Nebraska employees	Avery, 28
LB680	Authorize contracts for keeping prisoners for cities of the metropolitan class	Pedersen, 39
LB681	Increase motor vehicle dealer licensing fees and a bond	Pedersen, 39
LB682	Change provisions relating to use of the Supreme Court child support guidelines	Wightman, 36
LB683	Increase the earned income tax credit	Dubas, 34
LB684	Provide for an income tax credit based upon certain property taxes	Dubas, 34
LB685	Change provisions relating to the possession of alcohol by minors	Karpisek, 32

# NEW BILLS.....

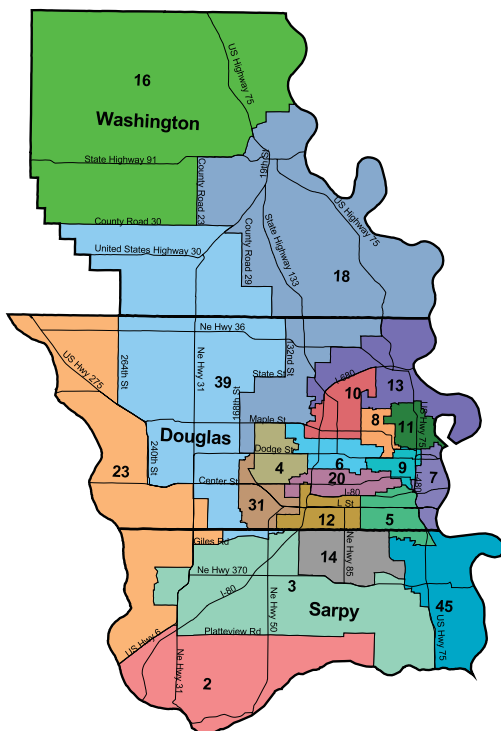
LB686	Provide for partisan ballots for unaffiliated voters at primary elections	Karpisek, 32
LB687	Redefine household income for homestead exemption purposes	Karpisek, 32
LB688	Provide for development of an income-based method of valuing agricultural land	Karpisek, 32
LB689	Provide for a limited winery license	Karpisek, 32
LB690	Provide for apprentice hunter education exemptions under the Game Law	Fischer, 43
LB691	Change Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act provisions with respect to full-day kindergarten	Synowiecki, 7
LB692	Prohibit intentional discharge of firearm within two hundred yards of a dwelling	Hudkins, 21
LB693	Require use of driver's license numbers for preparation of juror lists	Hudkins, 21
LB694	Authorize planning for a parking facility near the capitol	Christensen, 44
LB695	Limit the power of cities to regulate the carrying of concealed handguns	Christensen, 44
LB696	Provide a fee increase and a waiting period for marriage licenses if marriage education requirements are not met	Christensen, 44
LB697	Adopt the Entertainment and Tourism Development Act	Nelson, 6
LB698	Require local tax rate reports by Department of Revenue	Fulton, 29
LB699	Adopt the Healthy Nebraska Rx Card Program Act	Lathrop, 12
LB700	Adopt the Human Cloning Prohibition Act	Christensen, 44
LB701	Adopt a river basin administration committee	Christensen, 44
LB702	Change reimbursement provisions under the Special Education Act	White, 8
LB703	Change use of the income-approach calculation in determining the assessed valuation for rent-restricted housing projects	Friend, 10
LB704	Adopt the Fishable and Swimmable Waters Act	Preister, 5
LB705	Change provisions governing power district special generation applications	Dierks, 40
LR12CA	Constitutional amendment relating to educational lands and investment of the school trust permanent portfolio	Fischer, 43
LR13	Provide the Legislature encourages public fire departments to implement national fire safety guidelines	White, 8
LR14	Provide the Legislature supports the negotiation of a Taiwan-United States Free Trade Agreement	Engel, 17
LR15	Interim study to examine the impact of a waiver filed by Union Pacific before the Federal Railroad Administration on public safety	Business and Labor Committee

# Nebraska Legislative districts

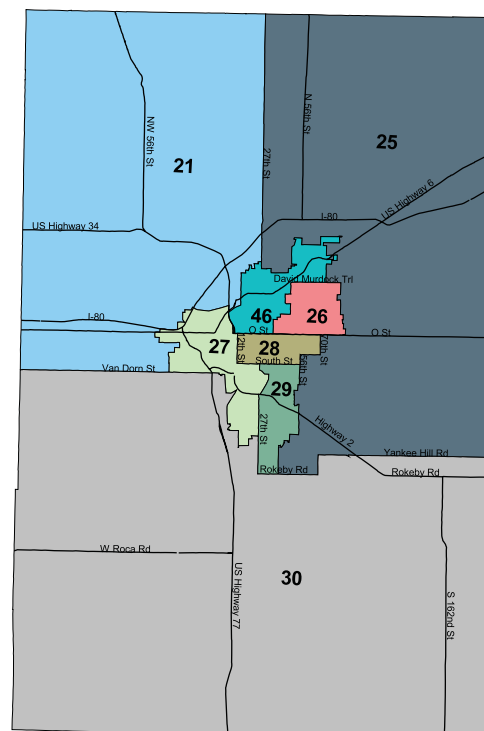
## Nebraska



## Washington, Douglas and Sarpy Counties



## Lincoln



# RESOURCES AND INFORMATION.



Sen. Greg L. Adams  
District 24  
471-2756 (Capitol)  
831 W. Fourth St.  
York, NE 68467

Sen. Ray Aguilar  
District 35  
471-2617 (Capitol)  
706 Grand Ave.  
Grand Island, NE 68801

Sen. Brad Ashford  
District 20  
471-2622 (Capitol)  
7926 Shirley St.  
Omaha, NE 68124

Sen. Bill Avery  
District 28  
471-2633 (Capitol)  
1925 E St.  
Lincoln, NE 68510

Sen. Carroll Burling  
District 33  
471-2712 (Capitol)  
4120 S. Shiloh Ave.  
Kenesaw, NE 68956

Sen. Tom Carlson  
District 38  
471-2732 (Capitol)  
1112 Brown St.  
Holdrege, NE 68949

Sen. Ernie Chambers  
District 11  
471-2612 (Capitol)  
3116 N. 24th St.  
Omaha, NE 68110

Sen. Mark R. Christensen  
District 44  
471-2805 (Capitol)  
138 Yucca Dr.  
Imperial, NE 69033

Sen. Abbie Cornett  
District 45  
471-2615 (Capitol)  
2601 Alberta Ave.  
Bellevue, NE 68147

Sen. M. L. Dierks  
District 40  
471-2801 (Capitol)  
RR 1 Box 131  
Ewing, NE 68735

Sen. Annette M. Dubas  
District 34  
471-2630 (Capitol)  
54906 N. 180th Ave.  
Fullerton, NE 68638

Sen. L. Patrick Engel  
District 17  
471-2716 (Capitol)  
401 E. 31st St.  
So. Sioux City, NE 68776

Sen. Philip Erdman  
District 47  
471-2616 (Capitol)  
511 Second Ave. PO Box 624  
Bayard, NE 69334

Sen. Deb Fischer  
District 43  
471-2628 (Capitol)  
Box 54  
Valentine, NE 69201

Sen. Mike Flood  
District 19  
471-2929 (Capitol)  
105 S. Second St.  
Norfolk, NE 68701

Sen. Mike Friend  
District 10  
471-2718 (Capitol)  
4722 N. 81st St.  
Omaha, NE 68134

Sen. Tony Fulton  
District 29  
471-2734 (Capitol)  
5935 S. 53rd St.  
Lincoln, NE 68516

Sen. Tim Gay  
District 14  
471-2730 (Capitol)  
1001 Hogan Dr.  
Papillion, NE 68046

Sen. Tom Hansen  
District 42  
471-2729 (Capitol)  
3782 W. Foothill Rd.  
North Platte, NE 68101

Sen. John N. Harms  
District 48  
471-2802 (Capitol)  
State Capitol, PO Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509

Sen. Lavon Heidemann  
District 1  
471-2733 (Capitol)  
62058 719 Rd.  
Elk Creek, NE 68348

Sen. Gwen Howard  
District 9  
471-2723 (Capitol)  
5512 Howard St.  
Omaha, NE 68106

Sen. Carol Hudkins  
District 21  
471-2673 (Capitol)  
8600 N.W. 112th St.  
Malcolm, NE 68402

Sen. Ray Janssen  
District 15  
471-2625 (Capitol)  
210 Cedar St. PO Box 159  
Nickerson, NE 68044

Sen. Joel T. Johnson  
District 37  
471-2726 (Capitol)  
3216 19th Ave.  
Kearney, NE 68845

Sen. Russ Karpisek  
District 32  
471-2711 (Capitol)  
PO Box 767  
Wilber, NE 68465

Sen. Gail Kopplin  
District 3  
471-2627 (Capitol)  
21760 Hilltop Ave.  
Gretna, NE 68028

Sen. Lowen Kruse  
District 13  
471-2727 (Capitol)  
5404 N. 50th Ave.  
Omaha, NE 68104

Sen. Chris Langemeier  
District 23  
471-2719 (Capitol)  
408 Elk St.  
Schuyler, NE 68661

Sen. Steve Lathrop  
District 12  
471-2623 (Capitol)  
State Capitol, PO Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509

Sen. LeRoy J. Loudon  
District 49  
471-2725 (Capitol)  
P.O. Box 25  
Ellsworth, NE 69340

Sen. Vickie D. McDonald  
District 41  
471-2631 (Capitol)  
State Capitol, PO Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509

Sen. Amanda McGill  
District 26  
471-2610 (Capitol)  
5045 Vine St. #520  
Lincoln, NE 68504

Sen. Mick Mines  
District 18  
471-2618 (Capitol)  
636 Hillcrest Drive  
Blair, NE 68008

Sen. Danielle Nantkes  
District 46  
471-2720 (Capitol)  
3179 R St. #1  
Lincoln, NE 68503

Sen. John E. Nelson  
District 6  
471-2714 (Capitol)  
6269 Glenwood Rd.  
Omaha, NE 68132

Sen. Rich Pahls  
District 31  
471-2327 (Capitol)  
16550 Dorcas St.  
Omaha, NE 68130

Sen. Dave Pankonin  
District 2  
471-2613 (Capitol)  
PO Box 106  
Louisville, NE 68037

Sen. Dwite Pedersen  
District 39  
471-2885 (Capitol)  
21440 Shamrock Road  
Elkhorn, NE 68022

Sen. Pete Pirsch  
District 4  
471-2621 (Capitol)  
State Capitol, PO Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509

Sen. Don Preister  
District 5  
471-2710 (Capitol)  
4522 Borman St.  
Omaha, NE 68157

Sen. Ron Raikes  
District 25  
471-2731 (Capitol)  
3221 S. 76th St.  
Lincoln, NE 68506

Sen. Kent Rogert  
District 16  
471-2728 (Capitol)  
PO Box 114  
Tekamah, NE 68061

Sen. DiAnna Schimek  
District 27  
471-2632 (Capitol)  
6437 Lone Tree Dr.  
Lincoln, NE 68512

Sen. Arnie Stuthman  
District 22  
471-2715 (Capitol)  
24160 310th St.  
Platte Center, NE 68653

Sen. John Synowiecki  
District 7  
471-2721 (Capitol)  
2451 S. 27th Ave.  
Omaha, NE 68105

Sen. Norm Wallman  
District 30  
471-2620 (Capitol)  
State Capitol, PO Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509

Sen. Tom White  
District 8  
471-2722 (Capitol)  
2517 N. 55th St.  
Omaha, NE 68104

Sen. John M. Wightman  
District 36  
471-2642 (Capitol)  
PO Box 100  
Lexington, NE 68850

## IF I COULD MAKE A LAW



Drew Witherspoon, age 11, Plattsmouth Community Middle School. "All lamp posts in December should be made out of candy canes."

## STUDENT ART SERIES

To commemorate the 100th Nebraska Legislature, fourth- through sixth-grade students throughout the state were invited to submit artwork depicting a law they would propose if they were a senator.

Selected entries will be published in each edition of this session's Unicameral Update and also will be posted on the Legislature's website at [nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/learning/makealaw](http://nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/learning/makealaw).

Published entries were selected by Larry Starr, director of social science education at the state Department of Education, Karen Janovy, curator of education for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery and Heidi Uhing, civic learning coordinator for the Nebraska Legislature. The top three entries will be published in the last three issues this session.

## UNICAMERAL UPDATE

The Unicameral Update is a free, weekly newsletter offered during the legislative session covering actions taken in committees and on the floor of the Legislature.

The Unicameral Update is produced by the Clerk of the Legislature's Office through the Unicameral Information Office.

To subscribe, you may contact the Unicameral Information Office, P.O. Box 94604, Lincoln, NE 68509, (402) 471-2788. You can also subscribe by e-mailing: [uio@leg.ne.gov](mailto:uio@leg.ne.gov)

Clerk of the Legislature  
Patrick J. O'Donnell

Editor  
Mitchell S. McCartney

Contributors  
Lauren Adams  
Kate Heltzel  
Connie Pritchard  
Heidi Uhing

Assistance provided by  
Clerk of the Legislature's Office  
Legislative Bill Room  
Legislative committee clerks  
Legislative committee legal counsels  
Legislative journal clerks  
Legislative Mail Room  
Legislative pages  
Legislative Technology Center  
Legislative Transcribers  
Nebraska State Print Shop

# Contact Information

## UNICAMERAL UPDATE SUBSCRIPTIONS:

- 24-Hour Request Line: (402) 471-2877

## UNICAMERAL UPDATE ONLINE:

- On the Web: [www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/update](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/update)

## STATUS OF BILLS OR RESOLUTIONS:

- Legislative Hot Line - Lincoln: (402) 471-2709
- Legislative Hot Line - Nebraska, outside Lincoln: (800) 742-7456
- On the Web: [www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/research](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/research)

## BILLS, RESOLUTIONS OR LEGISLATIVE JOURNALS:

- SUBSCRIPTIONS: Room 2018: (402) 471-2271
- INDIVIDUAL COPIES: 24-Hour Request Line: (402) 471-2877
- On the web: [www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/research](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/research)

## UNICAMERAL WEB SITE:

- On the Web: [www.nebraskalegislature.gov](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov)
- Technical Assistance - E-Mail: [support@leg.ne.gov](mailto:support@leg.ne.gov)

## UNICAM LIVE!:

- On the Web: [www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/unicamlive](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/unicamlive)

## NEBRASKA BLUE BOOK:

- Nebraska Blue Book Office: (402) 471-2220
- On the Web: [www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/bluebook](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/bluebook)

## WARNER INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION IN DEMOCRACY:

- Unicameral Information Office: (402) 471-2788
- On the Web: [www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/learning](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/learning)

## UNICAMERAL UPDATE

### CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE

Patrick J. O'Donnell  
Room 2018, State Capitol  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4604

### Legislative Hot Line

Voice/Telephone Text - (V/TTY)  
Lincoln...(402) 471-2709  
Nebraska (outside Lincoln)...(800) 742-7456

24-Hour Automated Request Line  
(402) 471-2877

### Web Site

[www.nebraskalegislature.gov](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov)

Unic@meral Update Online  
[www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/  
update](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/update)

Use the address below to  
contact your senator. Include your senator's  
name and district number in the address.

SENATOR  
DISTRICT #  
STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 94604  
LINCOLN, NE 68509-4604

Unicameral Information Office  
Nebraska State Legislature  
Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509  
03-23-05

PRESRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
LINCOLN, NE  
PERMIT NO. 212